MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

11 MARCH 1981

Pakistan

Citing official sources in Damascus, where a hijacked Pakistani airliner has been held for 2 days, AFP reported that the hijackers have extended their deadline until 1600 GMT on 12 March. According to Karachi radio, the hijackers had threatened to take "drastic measures" if their deamnds were not met by 1000 GMT on 11 March. The radio also said the hijackers have submitted a new list of 55 prisoners whom they want released before freeing their hostages. The hijackers at first demanded the release of 92 prisoners and later apparently reduced the number to 43. Meanwhile, AFP cited "informed sources" as saying that Pakistan is prepared to release over 30 prisoners and fly them out of the country.

Iran

Majlis Walkout--Thirteen deputies walked out of the Majlis to protest the bill to appoint supervisors for ministries for which ministers have yet to be appointed, Tehran radio reported. The session thereby lost its quorum and no vote was taken on the bill. Majlis Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani told the assembly, according to Tehran radio, that this minority group is violating the rights of the majority in the Majlis and of the entire nation. From now on, he added, those who are absent from the Majlis when votes are taken will be reprimanded. In a separate statement, broadcast by the radio, Rafsanjani informed all Majlis deputies who are on leave that all leave has been canceled and that they should attend the 11 March session.

Nabavi on Bani-Sadr--Minister of State for Executive Affairs Behzad Nabavi has added his voice to the widespread criticism of President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr. In a press conference reported by AFP, he accused the president of being involved in a movement to weaken and overthrow the Raja'i government.

Dismissal of Kordestan Commander--Mashhad ano Tehran radios have reported a number of protests, mainly by revolution guards units and religious leaders, against the dismissal of the armed forces commander in Kordestan, Col Seyyed Shirazi. In a Tehran radio interview, Supreme Defense Council spokesman 'Ali Khamene'i said the council discussed the issue and will take some unspecified "practical steps."

Iran-Iraq Conflict

A General Command communique, carried by INA, claimed that Iraqi aircraft hit an Iranian camp across the border from Panjwin. Tehran radio confirmed the raid, admitting minor losses. The radio also reported that Iranian forces continued their "intense bombardment" of Iraqi positions and checked an enemy tank advance in the Ilam region. It said Iraqi oil installations at the Al-Faw refinery were set ablaze by Iranian fire.

Iraq

Baghdad radio reported that following talks in London with British Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington, Foreign Minister Sa'dun Hammadi revealed that in the coming months Iraq and Britain are to conclude agreements on technical and economic cooperation.

Kurdish Situation

An 8 March Tehran radio report, citing "reliable" Iraqi sources, said that Iraqi troops have clashed with Iraqi Kurds in As-Sulaymaniyah, Kirkuk and Mosul and that the three

towns are completely closed. Another Tehran radio report claimed that Kurdish Democratic Party members clashed with members of the leftist Komeleh organization near the Iranian town of Sardasht on 7 and 8 March. Several casualties resulted. The radio also reported that "illegally armed assailants" unsuccessfully attacked gendarmerie bases in Urumiyeh and Naqadeh. Citing the Iranian newspaper KEYHAN, AFP said that 19 revolution guards were killed or wounded in clashes with "counterrevolutionaries" near Saqqez.

Lebanon

Beirut radio reported that the escort car of U.S. Ambassador John Gunther Dean was hit by a bullet as the ambassador and his escort were passing through Beirut port near the "scene of sniping" on 10 March. Voice of Lebanon claimed that this was an assassination attempt.

Gulf Affairs

The foreign ministers of the six member states of the Gulf Cooperation Council met in Oman, Salalah radio reported, and approved the council's basic statute, the Supreme Council's internal statute and the Ministerial Council's internal statute. They voted to postpone a decision on the General Secretariat's internal statute until a secretary general is appointed and expresses his views.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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KARMAL RECEIVES TRADE UNION CONGRESS DELEGATIONS

LD101844 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 10 Mar 81

[Text] Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, chairman of the DRA Revolution Council and prime minister, this morning received the guest delegations to the first congress of the Afghan trade unions at the Salam Khana Hall at the Revolution Council headquarters. Babrak Karmal expressed deep gratitude on behalf of himself, the party Central Committee and the DRA trade unions at the participation of the representatives of the toilers and workers of the friendly countries and the International Federation of Trade Unions in the first congress of the Afghan trade unions. He said: It is a matter of great pride and joy that for the first time the congress of the Afghan trade unions was held with the participation of the toilers and workers of the world. Babrak Karmal added: The solidarity of you friends of revolutionary Afghanistan at a time and in a situation when U.S. imperialism, Chinese chauvinism and the reaction of the region are active in an unholy front against the Afghan revolution, not only has a lofty, positive effect on the all-round development of the Afghan trade unions, but it has a valuable role in the consolidation of peace and security in the region. This solidarity is a shattering blow to imperialism, chauvinism and reaction.

Prime Minister Karmal added: Today our fundamental and major task is to endeavor to achieve solidarity between the workers and toilers of the world; to defend, with all our power, world peace, detente and security; and to struggle against the arms race.

Babrak Karmal said: The Afghan revolution is still young; the DRA is young; our trade and workers unions are young; but we have powerful toiling people and we have our great international friends at our side who defend us and our revolution. Therefore, we are confident that the conspiracies and intrigues of our enemies are doomed to failure and our victory and the victory of our revolution is inevitable.

At the end of his speech, Babrak Karmal outlined messages of good will and solidarity of the party, trade unions and the toiling people of Afghanistan to all toilers and workers of the world and requested the guest delegation to convey these messages and good wishes to the toilers and workers of their unions.

A BAKHTAR correspondent reports that Ebrahim Zekaria, acting secretary general of the International Federation of Trade Unions and Aleksandr Mikhaylovich Subbotin, secretary of the All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions, on behalf of the guest delegations, expressed hearty wishes from the toilers and workers of the international trade unions to Prime Minister Karmal personally, to the party and government and to the toiling people of Afghanistan, and expressed their thanks at being able to participate in the first Afghan trade unions congress. They pointed out that they will tell the facts of the Afghan revolution to the world on their return to their countries, and will defend the revolution and just claims of the Afghan people. Satar Pordali, president of the Afghan trade unions, was present at the meeting.

According to another report, a reception was given last night by the Central Council of Afghan Trade Unions in the Intercontinental Hotel in honor of the delegations participating in the first Afghan trade unions congress. Dr Saleh Mohammad Ziray and Nur Ahmad Nur, members of the Politburo and secretaries of the party Central Committee, some other members of the Politburo, the PDPA Central Committee, the DRA Revolution Council and the council of ministers and party cadres also attended the reception.

UNION LEADER ADDRESSES TRADE UNION CONGRESS

LD101428 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1235 GMT 8 Mar 81

[Speech by Satar Pordali, head of the DRA Central Council of Trade Unions, at the opening session of the first DRA trade union congress in the Salam Khanah Hall in Kabul on 7 March--recorded]

[Excerpt] By the victory of the new development stage of the Sawr Revolution, all of the heinous counterrevolutionary intentions of our enemies have been spoiled, the scandalous plans of the CIA have been exposed and the encroachments upon revolutionary Afghanistan have taken a different form. The mercenaries and servants of American imperialism, Chinese chauvinist circles and Arab reaction, headed by the traitor As-Sadat, use the soil of Pakistan as a base for aggression against our revolutionary country. After they have been trained on the instructions of Beijing and Washington advisers they penetrate our territory with American and Chinese weapons, set fire to mosques, schools, haystacks and houses, murder women, children and old people and destroy bridges and vehicles. Therefore, members of the country's trade unions have formed resistance groups and are struggling and will struggle heroically at the battlefront with the counterrevolutionaries and bandits.

At the beginning of last year, when our revolutionary country was passing through difficult days, more than 1,000 members of the trade unions put on police uniforms, took arms and placed themselves in the fortress of defending the interests of the toilers and the national and democratic Sawr Revolution. Similarly, dozens joined the ranks of the security forces. This situation was not limited to the city of Kabul; more than 500 members of the trade unions in the provinces of Balkh, Jowzjan, Baghlan, Herat and Nangahar armed and formed proud resistance groups. Of course, not only were there men in the front rank, but there were also a large number of our sisters who asked for weapons. Members of the trade unions [word indistinct] participated heroically in the operations and victoriously returned after the deathly defeat of the mercenaries and servants of reaction and imperialism. The martyrdom of more than 50 heroes of the trade union activists in the fortresses of the battle with the enemies is the eternal pride of the trade unions of Afghanistan. Praise be upon the pure souls of the martyrs of the revolution and humanity.

POLITBURO DISCUSSES CPSU CONGRESS, BUDGET

LD091730 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 9 Mar 81

[Text] The PDPA Central Committee Politburo met at 1600 today. It was chaired by Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, chairman of the Revolution Council and prime minister of the DRA.

Prime Minister Babrak Karmal presented a comprehensive report on the participation of the Afghan party delegation in the 26th CPSU Congress and on the importance and results of the congress. The Politburo approved this report as well as the activities in Moscow of the Afghan party delegation which included a number of statements, visits and contacts.

The politburo session also thoroughly discussed the ordinary and development budgets [for the Islamic year beginning 21 March] and the State Planning Committee and the Ministry of Finance were instructed to submit these budgets to the Council of Ministers for ratification and then to the Revolution Council Presidium for final approval.

CENTRAL COMMITTEE GREETS INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

LD052312 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1600 GMT 5 Mar 81

[Excerpts] Here is the message of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan Central Committee commemorating international women's day, 8 March.

Noble and toiling daughters and women of Afghanistan: The PDPA Central Committee, on the occasion of 8 March, women's international solidarity day, conveys sincere greetings to you, the Democratic Women's Organization of Afghanistan [DWOA]--the militant vanguard of the country's women--and through the participants of this glorious meeting, to all the toiling women of Afghanistan. We wish you brilliant successes in your revolutionary work.

Dear sisters and brothers, the widespread struggles of women the world over, which has deep historic roots, has, since 1910, entered the new stage of collective struggles. The day 8 March was accepted as women's international solidarity day (?internationally).

It is an obvious fact that, without the wide and all-round participation of women, no movement can in reality take a mass form and succeed. That is why the DRA recognized from the beginning the fundamental and organic tie of the women's movement with the national and social movement for freedom, and has embarked on a struggle to implement it.

The DWOA, this militant battalion and steel-like fist of women in Afghanistan, this (?true) supporter of the PDPA, which was formed more than 16 years ago, has consistently and side-by-side with its militant and revolutionary brothers courageously raised the banner of struggle against reaction and imperialism and has fearlessly followed it up with revolutionary fervor and struggle.

From the start of its militant work, the DWOA has not only effectively defended the grace and rights of women but has also taken part in the revolutionary movement to defend freedom, national independence and social economic progress. The role of the DWOA in defending the gains of the Sawr Revolution, and especially in taking the new development stage to its current level of success, is (?worthy of appreciation).

KESHTMAND RECEIVES RURAL DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORS

LD052202 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 5 Mar 81

[Text] Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, vice chairman of the Revolution Council and deputy prime minister of the DRA, today received the rural development directors of the country's provinces at the prime minister's offices. The vice chairman of the Revolution Council and deputy prime minister of the DRA explained to them at this meeting the DRA's rural development projects, stressing their duties in the realization and implementation of plans and programs concerning the country's rural areas.

DRA TO PURCHASE PETROLEUM PRODUCTS FROM USSR

LD092126 Kabul in English to Eruope 1900 GMT 9 Mar 81

[Text] The protocol for purchasing 322,500 tons of petroleum was signed today with the Soviet Union. According to this protocol, the purchased petroleum products, which include diesel, kerosene and airplane fuel, will be given to the Afghan authorities within the coming 12 days.

TURKISH FOREIGN MINISTER VISITS BANGLADESH

Arrival in Dacca

BK081718 Dacca Domestic Service in English 1705 GMT 8 Mar 81

[Excerpt] Turkish Foreign Minister Ilter Turkmen arrived in Dacca this evening on a 4-day official visit to Bangladesh at the invitation of Foreign Minister Mohammad Shamsul Haq.

Talks With Shamsul Haq

BK091337 Dacca Overseas Service in English 1230 GMT 9 Mar 81

[Text] Formal talks were held in Dacca today between Foreign Minister Prof Mohammad Shamsul Haq and his visiting Turkish counterpart, Ilter Turkmen. An official spokesman told newsmen that the two foreign ministers expressed complete identity of views on almost all the burning issues pressing the world today. During the 90-minute talks they also discussed bilateral matters including the ways and means for strengthening and expanding further the existing friendly relations between the two countries, particularly in the trade and commerce sector. They directed officials concerned to take appropriate measures for finding out more areas of cooperation and suggesting measures for the increase of trade and commerce between the two friendly countries. The two foreign ministers also reviewed the efforts of the Islamic countries to resolve the Afghan problem. They expressed the hope that a peaceful solution would eventually come.

Banquet With Shamsul Haq

BK100652 Dacca Overseas Service in English 0445 GMT 10 Mar 81

[Text] Bangladesh and Turkey have expressed their concern at the continuing war between Iran and Iraq and hoped the efforts of the Islamic peace mission will succeed in ending the war. This was stated by Foreign Minister Shamsul Haq while speaking at a dinner given by him in honor of visiting Turkish Foreign Minister Ilter Turkmen in Dacca last night. Prof Shamsul Haq said the Gulf war is (?harmful) not only to Iran and Iraq but also to the entire Islamic world and poses a threat to the international peace and security. Speaking on the occasion, the Turkish foreign minister said the war has assumed alarming dimension for all the Islamic countires and the region. Unless brought to a speedy end the war threatens the entire region with further instability, fragmentation and foreign intervention. The Turkish foreign minister recalled the most valuable and far-sighted contribution made by President Ziaur Rahman to the work of the Islamic peace mission as one of its members. Referring to his talks with the Bangladesh foreign minister, Mr Turkmen said the talks covered the possibilities of promotion of bilateral relations in several fields.

Press Conference

BK110655 Dacca Overseas Service in English 0445 GMT 11 Mar 81

[Text] Turkish Foreign Minister Ilter Turkmen leaves Dacca today at the end of his 5-day visit to Bangladesh. Addressing a news conference in Dacca yesterday, he said he had a very useful exchange of views with Bangladesh leaders. International relations and issues of [word indistinct] concern to the region were discussed. Replying to a question, the Turkish foreign minister appreciated the Bangladesh proposal for forging regional cooperation of the South Asian countries. Replying to a question on bilateral relations, Mr Turkmen said the two countries are actively considering a proposal to set up a joint venture jute industry. He referred to the opening of a new jute center in Turkey as a concrete step toward furthering bilateral relations. The Turkish foreign minister said deep-rooted friendship exists between Turkey and Bangladesh and his visit will further concolidate the relations.

BULGARIAN FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER VISITS DELHI

Meeting With Gandhi

AU062109 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 2030 GMT 6 Mar 81

[Text] Khristo Khristov, minister of foreign trade of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, was received by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi in Delhi today. He briefed the leader of the Indian Government on the successful economic development of our country and on its increased trade possibilities. The bilateral trade and economic relations between the two countries were highly evaluated as an essential part of the developing all-round Bulgarian-Indian relations.

Minister Khristo Khristov and Pranab Kumar Mukherjee, Indian minister of commerce, civil supplies and communications, signed a protocol which envisages an expansion of trade between Bulgaria and India. The utilization of certain new forms of cooperation is also envisaged. Business deals were also concluded between Bulgarian trade enterprises and Indian firms for deliveries of Bulgarian chemical, metallurgical and electronic products to India, as well as for the export of Indian light industry, agricultural and machine-building goods to Bulgaria.

Trade Discussion With Mukherjee

BK070815 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 7 Mar 81

[Text] India-Bulgarian trade envisages more than a three-fold increase by 1985 which will be to the order of $200-300 million. The trade between the two countries during 1980 was worth about $60 million. Steps to increase trade and cooperation were discussed in New Delhi between visiting Bulgarian Foreign Trade Minister Khristov and Commerce Minister Pranab Mukherjee and other central ministers. Mr Mukherjee and Mr Khristov signed the agreed minutes of the India-Bulgarian talks. The two countries have identified more items for not only increasing the volume of trade but also balancing it. The trade is now more favorable to Bulgaria. A contract has been signed under which Bulgaria will supply 200,000 tons of high-speed diesel during this year. While India has offered to set up a zinc plant in Bulgaria, Bulgaria has agreed to supply more quantities of diesel oil, urea and bulk carriers.

FRG PRESIDENT CARSTENS CONCLUDES VISIT TO INDIA

BK091601 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 9 Mar 81

[Text] President of the Federal Republic of Germany Karl Carstens and Madame Carstens left Bangalore for home today by a special aircraft after a 6-day visit to India. They were seen off at the airport among others by the Karnataka governor, the chief minister and others.

Earlier, talking to newsmen, Mr Carstens said his government would extend all cooperation to India in the development of agriculture. Referring to his talks with the Indian leaders in New Delhi, Mr Carstens said he had useful dialogue with President Reddy and Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi.

OFFICIAL COMMENTS ON LATEST HIJACKING DEVELOPMENTS

BK101652 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 10 Mar

[Excerpts] The hijacker of the PIA [Pakistan International Airlines] aircraft has presented another list of 55 persons to be released in connection with his demands. He has set a deadline of 1500 tomorrow afternoon Pakistan Standard Time [1000 GMT]. He has threatened that he will take drastic measures if his demand is not met.

The defense secretary general and the PIA chairman told newsmen in Rawalpindi this afternoon that the hijacker had demanded that the people should be released and sent outside Pakistan after which he would consider the release of the passengers of the hijacked plane. The hijacker also informed the Pakistani authorities that he will present another list of prisoners whom he wants released. Retired Maj Gen M. Rahim Khan said that in the new list of 55 people there are some who were included in the list of 92 people whose release he had earlier demanded. The government is comparing both lists.

He said that the Syrian authorities, who are negotiating with the hijackers, have told him that the Government of Pakistan is ready to release the families of two persons who were involved in the Karachi University incident. The hijacker was also told that 15 people out of the list of 92 can be released. The hijacker was asked to supply information about the 31 [number as heard] other people so that they can be identified and included along with the list of 15 people. The government, however, cannot be blackmailed concerning the release of persons who are involved in serious criminal cases.

He stated categorically that the prisoners and the hostages should be released simultaneously and the question of sending any prisoner outside Pakistan will not arise until the hijacker places the passengers of the plane in Syrian custody. He said that so far as the release of the prisoners is concerned, the government will guarantee that the release may be supervised by an international organization and the Syrian authorities may also be included in this process.

Replying to a question, the PIA chairman said that Pakistan is fully confident that the Syrian authorities are completely capable of resolving this crisis. Pakistan has already told Syria that it will accept any appropriate action taken by the Syrian authorities.

The Pakistani ambassador in Jordan was sent immediately to Damascus and the Pakistani ambassador to Syria, who had come home on leave, will return there sometime tomorrow.

He said that, according to the information provided by the Kabul authorities to our negotiating team in Kabul, Ashraf Ali, another passenger of the hijacked plane, was released before the departure of the plane to Damascus and he will return home along with the negotiating team. According to another report, the Kabul authorities had provided the hijackers with 125 lunch boxes while there were 107 passengers in the plane. The actual number of passengers on the hijacked aircraft is now 102.

The defense secretary general apprised the newsmen of the circumstances under which Tariq Rahim was killed. The circumstances have been described by the passengers who were released by the hijackers. According to these passengers, Tariq Rahim was dragged out of his seat to the first exit of the plane where he was shot, and then thrown out of the plane while he was still alive.

In reply to another question, he said that the countries with whom Pakistan has relations have been asked to help in securing the release of the passengers. He said that President Mohammad Ziaul Haq sent a message to King Khalid of Saudi Arabia this afternoon requesting him to help in solving this humanitarian problem in his capacity as the Islamic Conference organization chairman. The president in his message referred to the difficulties faced by the passengers of the plane, who have been there for 9 days.

NABAVI: CHOICE BETWEEN REVOLUTION, HIGHER WAGES

LD111036 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 11 Mar 81

["Excerpt" of press conference given by Behzad Nabavi, minister of state for executive affairs, on 10 March in Tehran--recorded]

[Text] [Question] Mr Nabavi, concerning the labor issues and the strikes which take place in factories and workshops, please tell us what are the reasons for these strikes? Are there [words indistinct], and are they caused by low wages, the high rate of inflation and high costs?

[Answer] Of course, all these issues you refer to do exist. There might be weakness in the leadership; following the revolution, the affairs of thousands of factories which were being administered by big capitalists and those connected with the former regime were suddenly nationalized. The new directors do not possess the same degree of expertise and administrative ability as the former managers did. They might have some weaknesses.

On the issue of the high cost of living, the increase in the rate of inflation and the freezing of salaries, this is obvious and everyone experiences this. But, well, we are engaged in a war. We cannot do more in regard to these things. At the moment, it is not possible for the government to raise salaries. There is a war crisis.

We know that these issues do exist, but the important thing is that our workers did not carry out the revolution for such issues, for the sake of salaries and for the sake of their comfort, and we know that they would expel their coworkers for asking for higher salaries. And now, althogh these shortages exist, they nevertheless bear with these shortages. They will never bargain their revolution for the sake of higher salaries. This is very clear and obvious. This position of our workers is quite clear, and the workers are the powerful arms of our revolution, like all other oppressed people.

Thus, the main cause behind these events is the general course, the general policy of America. It is the policy of the counterrevolutionaries to topple the Government of the Islamic Republic and deliver an economic blow to it. Now that they have been unable to deliver a blow with the war, they are trying to deliver economic and political blows; every strike delivers both an economic blow, because production will cease, and a political blow, because it creates tension and chaos in society.

We possess some definite documents which demonstrate that counterrevolutionary, leftists and hypocritical groups are seriously engaged in planning worker's strikes. Wherever, there is a slight pretext--today they talk of the New Year bonus, tomorrow they talk of a salary rise or any other pretext--they seriously pursue the matter in order to start a strike. But, fortunately, they have been unsuccessful to date, except in a few cases.

One of these cases was the bus company [in Tehran] and the Melli shoe factory. In both cases, without the government acting like the provisional government which, as soon as there was strike action would immediately raise salaries; without paying attention to the problem of how they would provide the money for the bigger salaries; even if they could provide them, would this not increase the rate of the inflation; [sentence as heard] When you raise salaries, prices rise and purchasing power is reduced. If we cannot produce, if we do not increase production, the same crisis and the same process will continue.

We discussed these issues with our workers. We told them the truth of the matter. We told them: You should ask either for your revolution or for higher pay. If you feel that higher pay is more important than Islam and the revolution, it does not matter, we will also join you and will engage in a nationwide strike. We will destroy the revolution.

We will endanger the revolution. We will provide the background for an American coup d'etat. We will provide the background for the coming of Bakhtiar and people like him. It is natural. When they come they will at first receive a $2 billion loan from America and will give it all to a number of people at the beginning in order to silence everyone. If you wish to do this, let us all do it together. It is natural that none of our believing, committed workers tolerate such conditions. When the issue was made clear to them, and when they realized that these actions are part of a general counter-revolutionary movement in order to topple the government and the order of the Islamic Republic--that these movements have been prepared by counterrevolutionaries--then they returned to their jobs without having the slightest expectations.

Here, I wish to thank all these workers and all other workers who are busily engaged in their own work and who were not deceived by incitements and who confronted these issues with awareness and intelligence. I hope we can take more effective steps in improving the loss of the workers. But they should know that at the moment, if they have salary increases, or if they receive a New Year bonus when there are no goods in the market, when they take their bonuses to the market and wish to buy more goods, because there are no more goods they will be made more expensive. In practice, even the one or two oranges which they might have bought they will now buy at a higher price. The money has been taken out of the government's pocket and has gone into the pocket of a number of (?middle-men).

NABAVI ATTENDS ECONOMIC MEETINGS, REVIEWS BUDGET

LD081406 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 8 Mar 81

[Text] The economic mobilization headquarters held a session this morning chaired by engineer Behzad Nabavi, minister of state for executive affairs. The meeting, held in the conference hall of the prime minister's offices, discussed freezing the price of cotton and ways and means to fairly distribute rice.

PARS reports that after spending 2 and 1/2 hours at this meeting the minister of state left in order to attend another meeting to discuss the next national budget. This meeting, also held in the prime minister's offices, reviewed figures concerning the national budget.

MAJLIS DEPUTIES ORDERED TO ATTEND 11 MAR SESSION

LD101104 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 10 Mar 81

[Text] The following statement has been put at the disposal of the Central News Bureau by the speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly:

In His exalted name. We hereby inform all the esteemed deputies of the Islamic Consultative Assembly who are on leave that all leave has been canceled and that they are obligated to attend the open session of the Islamic Consultative Assembly to be held at 0800 on Wednesday 11 March.

[Signed] The speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly, Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani

RAFSANJANI MEETS WITH AYATOLLAHS IN QOM 6 MAR

GF070630 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 7 Mar 81

[Text] Majlis Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani met with the great Ayatollahs Montazeri, Najafi Mar'ashi and Golpayegani in Qom yesterday. During one of the meetings, Ayatollah Najafi Mar'ashi stressed the need for unity among the people's representatives so as to steer the ship to the shore of safety. Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani affirmed that the Majlis, with the presence of religious ulema, will endorse only laws in accordance with the spirit of islam.

KEYNAN DETAILS DEPUTIES' 26 FEB AMJADIYYEH SPEECHES

LD101539 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 28 Feb 81 p 15

[KEYHAN correspondent's report: "Political Positions of the Four Tehran Deputies Announced at Amjadiyyeh Rally"]

[Excerpts] Last Thursday [26 February] Tehran's ancient landmark, the Amjadijjeh Stadium, witnessed a rally attended by several thousand Tehran residents from all walks of life who had assembled to hear speeches by four Islamic Consultative Assembly deputies. The people entered the many gates of the stadium in an orderly and peaceful manner and took their places on unnumbered seats, while Islamic Republic of Iran Police Department officers stood by.

Dr Ibrahim Yazdi, Dr Yadollah Sehabi and engineer Bazargan, [Dr Hashem Sabbaghian's name inadvertently dropped] the four Majlis deputies who had organized the rally, delivered speeches, each of them recording their achievements while serving as deputies.

Prior to the speeches, revolutionary songs were sung, followed by a [presumably recorded] talk Imam Khomeyni held with the indefatigable fighter [the late] Ayatollah Taleqani and the martyred teacher, Dr Ali Shari'ati. Dr Yadollah Sehabi, one of the oldest members of the Freedom Movement of Iran, then mounted the rostrum to speak. After opening remarks expressing good wishes for the victory of the Islamic warriors on the battlefront, he asked those present to rise and recite the fateheh [opening chapter of the Koran] in memory of the martyrs. He then said:

"Topics figuring in today's program have been divided among us, with each of us speaking on a different aspect of the present state of affairs prevailing in the country; in accordance with our duty as deputies we shall expound our views in order to keep you, the heroic nation, informed.

First, we apoligize for the change in venue. Instead of the bastion-like premises of the university, you have gathered here. It was our desire to have another meeting with our constituents at the university, where we served for 30 years, being numbered, as we are, among its founders. However, the state authorities changed the venue to here, thus keeping us away from the university.

Our aim in gathering here today is in no way provocative, and under present circumstances we have never wanted to create a provocative atmosphere; if such a label has been put on it, it is a malicious one and far from the truth. Our aim has been nothing other than to speak the truth, to demand our rights and to explain the facts. We have gathered here today to discuss certain issues and point to remedies so that we can solve many of the problems.

In accordance with article 84 of the Constitution, every deputy is answerable to the nation and has the right to express his views on internal and foreign issues, and inform his constituents on topics as necessary. On this basis, the concern felt by certain state officials and authorities at this rally being convened is misplaced. As minority members in the Majlis we do not enjoy adequate facilities, and whenever a motion is discussed in committee or by the whole house we are ignored.

We have never been allowed to make preagenda speeches; thus, restrictions have also been placed upon us in this respect. In particular, obstacles placed in our way and discrimination against us by the radio and television organization is another matter we, the minority members [wish to] discuss; the radio and television organization has never broadcast our speeches or addresses. It is up to you, the heroic nation, to judge.

Dr Sehabi then announced the topics to be dealt with by the other deputies and left the rostrum.

Engineer Bazargan's Speech

The second speaker, Freedom Movement member engineer Bazargan, then went to the rostrom, causing a ripple of enthusiasm and excitement among the people in the stadium, which resounded with applause and the slogans "Bazargan, Bazargan, veteran guerrilla of Iran," "Hail Khomeyni, greetings Bazargan," and "Hail, Bazargan, greetings Bani-Sadr."

When the people had quieted down, engineer Bazargan began his speech with a Koranic verse, and said: "Following the victory of our revolution, the imam of the community placed me and my friends in office with the task of forming the provisional government and running the country. We took certain measures at the time, and you, dear nation, know all about them.

"We tried our utmost to direct our steps and the revolution along its original course."

After giving a chronological account of the Freedom Movement, engineer Bazargan referred in the following terms to the questions which the people had asked:

"The question being asked most, apart from 'Why did you meet Brzezinski?' is why we have kept silent in the Majlis. The reason is that our attitutdes toward the job entrusted to us and our methods were orderly and peaceful and involved bringing about [the rule of] law and its observance, an approach we never wished to change; this was the reason for our silence in the Majlis.

"Since the radio and television organization considers what we say to be meaningless, it never broadcasts anything by us; and, since other media have not favored us either, we were compelled to start publishing the newspaper MIZAN so that we can at least write about what we are saying and feeling and reach the people in this way.

Another question asked is why we do not leave the Majlis, which, according to those asking the question, does not deserve to have us there. This is not possible, since we still regard the Majlis as a place to voice criticism and we have not yet been driven to the extremity of resigning and not being able to speak. Although there are restrictions, we are still hopeful of benefitting.

Engineer Bazargan then referred to the views of the Freedom Movement of Iran on various issues in the Islamic Republic and on various social problems as follows:

"I was to have talked extensively on the Islamic Republic and the Islamic revolution, the leadership and clerical rule [velayat-e faqih], the true clergy, the presidency of the republic, Mr Raja'i's government, the revolution's institutions, the war, unity and cooperation, but, because of a lack of time and the cold weather, I will end at this point and sum up by saying that the road to salvation and the guarantee for the permanence of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Islamic revolution lies in all-round cooperation and unity among all groups and institutions. I hope that this will be achieved."

Dr Yazdi's Speech

Another participant in Thursday's program, Dr Ibrahim Yazdi, mounted the rostrum following engineer Bazargan's speech and said:

Following the victory of the revolution, many problems emerged in the country, and these included those of the economy and management of the state, whose importance in the elimination of problems is one of the most foundamental issues. They have to be discussed quite apart from any other topic, occupying as they do a sensitive role in state affairs.

After every revolution there are two viewpoints as to the number of political parties that should exist. One group believes that society should live under a single-party system after a revolution, that the country should be governed by a particular group; those opposing this believe that there should be several parties, that a multiparty system facilitiates the management of state affairs more easily than the one-party system. This is the position in our society after our revolution, and we see that the one-party system has prevailed; the ruling party has taken over everything, including the administration of state affairs, although it is a party that was not formed until February 1979.

The creation of a single-party system is against the Koran. Those who in the name of hezbollah are trying to impose their rule should recognize that the meaning of hezbollah is not what they imagine. In the Koran, the hezbollah means the rule of monotheistic ideas.

How can the people accept a ruling party some of whose members oppose political activity and who used to be associated with non-Islamic groups? In the Majlis they accuse certain deputies with sound Islamic and fighting records of failing to follow the imam's policy, and they hold their salaries. The indefatigable fighter and warrior always in the fray, Ayatollah Taleqani's son, has been prevented from speaking on the grounds that he does not follow the imam's policy, while the representative of any liberation front or the ambassador of any country is given the right to make speeches; in the opinion of those favoring the one-party system, this constitutes "following the imam's line."

Who is weakening the Majlis? Those who have begun to stage a political play, making indirect negotiations illegal and then going and negotiating and signing an agreement? Or we who speak the truth and criticize in accordance with fundamental principles? First they announce that all socialist countries are on the side of America; then they send a team to benefit from the cultural revolution which the Soviet revolution produced in Russia.

Hashem Sabbaghian then mounted the rostrum and spoke on the strengthening of the leadership and the support for the true clergy. The speech ended at 1830 hours when the security forces were forced to take control of the situation.

AHVAZ DEPUTY ATTACKS LIBERALS, BAZARGAN, BANI-SADR

GF101819 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1351 GMT 9 Mar 81

[Speech by Ahvaz Majlis Deputy 'Adel Asadinia prior to Friday prayers in Ahvaz on 6 March--recorded]

[Excerpts] I start my speech with the matter of clerical rule. It may try your patience but I urge you before God to pay attention to my words and become aware. The aim of the policy of the fraudulent politicians is to turn toward the American line. The (?victims of the) coup have not been aware. Beware and maintain unity. Overcome your feelings, and with firm action, without feelings, follow the true, deep and basic policies of the imam.

Today the Sumerian calves in our society want to separate us from the imam's ideology. [chants of "God is great," "Khomeyni is the leader," "Death to dissenters and Saddam" and "Hail to Khomeyni"] Today these Sumerian calves are not like the golden calf that separated the Israeli tribes from their prophet and his ideology. Today's Sumerian calves are the papers, the liberals and compromisers who spilled the blood of our martyrs in Kordestan during the interim government. The Sumerian calves today are people like Hashem Sabbaghivan, those [words indistinct], Mo'infars and those who follow the U.S. line. Today the Sumerian calves are Dr Yazdi and people like him who in Algeria discussed matters with Brzezinski in a political love affair. Today the Sumerian calves are those who tendered the resignation of the interim government following the occupation of the American den of spies. Today the Sumerian calves are these.

Oh you who follow the imam's line, you brothers and sisters, unite, discipline yourselves and spread the imam's ideology across society.

Dear brothers, esteemed sisters, I swear before God and the holy book of God's messenger that I waited 6 months in the Majlis and then exploded. I swear to God we went to the imam several times and told him. He told me to remain quiet, so I remained quiet. I am not exposing that character [presumably Bazargan]. I will stay quiet.

When I leave you today, because of the blood of my brother Hoseyn, Mohammad 'Ali [words indistinct] I shall go to the imam and offer my resignation and ask him for his religious advice. I do not recall having remained quiet so long. I suggest you do not become emotional; I just wanted you to know about the plots of the crawling coup. [as heard] I just wanted to tell you about this. Be aware and wait. Avoid any battle. I beg you, it is the imam's decree. The imam has allowed this expose on the condition that there is no fighting. It is for the sake of informing people.

They are turning the war from a military matter to a political one because they see that most of those who follow the imam's line are busy on the fronts. They are using (?this opportunity) to obtain their political goals by bartering with the blood of our martyrs. Oh God, hear our complaint.

Why do you [unidentified] give interviews to foreign papers and thus dishonor the revolution? Our brothers in the Majlis who went to Tanzania were told by students to stop such interviews. The students said: We do not receive money (?from Iran), yet we still go to cafes and wash dishes and defend the revolution. They may take us away to U.S. and British jails, yet we still defend the revolution. So why is it that some character in the country dishonors the revolution with interviews? Why? [passage indistinct]

This revolution is bad for those who want to steer it toward the East or the West. They want either the East or the West. One group wants to go this way and another that. The imam is standing in the middle with determination saying: "Neither East nor West, only the Islamic Republic."

Let me explain something to you. If you see these missions coming to Iran it is because the internal situation in Iraq is becoming chaotic. Saddam is prepared to return to the (?old) borders with the minimum offer. He knows that if he goes back without any concession his nation will ask him what happened to Saddam's [word indistinct]. He is therefore prepared to return with the smallest concession. We, however, are not prepared to make any. If we make any concession to Iraq today, another country will attack and ask for one because there are plenty of U.S. and Soviet puppets. There are many more than this one. This is why we must continue the war and, as the imam has declared many times, so long as there is one Iraqi soldier in our land Iraq is condemned as the aggressor.

Let the young come to power. Because most members of Raja'i's government are young and revolutionary, they [presumably Bazargan and his followers] have begun issuing rumors that they belong to the Tudeh Party: They are communists! Let them.

You who announce yourselves as revolutionaries, what did you do? Nothing but condemn the regime of the shah in the West with your 12-point resolutions when the high school students in Iran were disseminating the imam's communiques? The penalty for that was 15 years in jail.

You said we should keep the shah and change the Constitution. The imam said he would not see you unless you agreed the shah must go. Was it not you, Mr Bazargan? What else can I say? Now these people are calling themselves revolutionaries in the Majlis. They shout behind the tribune of the Majlis: Talk about the problem of the club wielders. Is it club wielding to defend the ideology? Shall I tell you who was responsible for the bus company strike [in Tehran]? We have tapes of the proceedings and took them to the imam. Shall I tell who was the cause? [chants of assent] Shame on you. You are dancing to Eastern and Western tunes on the blood of the martyrs. What else can I say?

We are not talking about confrontation with the president. According to the Constitution--read it, it is yours; you voted for it. It is the fruit of blood of the martyrs. Read it--it is stated in the Constitution that should the prime minister not have chosen some of the members of the Cabinet he is entitled to take charge of the relevant ministries until they are chosen. This is in the Constitution. After a 3-day hunger strike by Abadan Deputy Sepasi, some brothers and I met and discussed the matter and said: Since the ministers have not been chosen and this is harming the economy... [sentence left unfinished]

Those charging high prices are living it up. Those living at the north of the city have made a mess. The embassies still have idolatrous parties. These gentlemen allow foreign ladies, models, into embassies of the Islamic Republic. These are the members of the embassies of the Islamic Republic.

Take a look at the Ministry of Commerce. We asked the prime minister to take over these portfolios until the arguments are settled, even though we believe they will not be settled. The whole thing is U.S. policy. As soon as our decision was known, he [presumably Bani-Sadr] in his [word indistinct] said this is unconstitutional. Is it not strange? It's the same law they shout about supporting.

He shouts in the Majlis: If you will allow me, you gentlemen, I have a few things to say. Some shout: Please, talk. No one is stopping you. He then says: Well, if you will not allow me I will go and not say anything.

These are ways of creating an atmosphere. These are Western political tricks. If people denounce me in Ahvaz tomorrow for the position and stand I am holding, I shall leave it and let the people know my opinion on street corners and in village squares. [chants]

We are not after power. May God strike us if that be our aim. As you know, my reason (?for seeking office) was that I did not want other ideologies entering the Majlis.

You people, do not follow propaganda, rumors or lies. Let us not be forced to live under such Marxist traits. Maintain Islamic culture among you. Maintain your unity.

SHIRAZ IMAM RULES OUT COMPROMISE WITH IRAQ

GF101800 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1530 GMT 10 Mar 81

[Text of communique issued by Shiraz Friday Imam Ayatollah Hajj Seyyed 'Abdolhoseyn Dastgheyb on 10 March--read by announcer]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. There are many queries nowadays about peace with the traitor Saddam as proposed by the commission on the Iran-Iraq conference in At-Ta'if. According to section 110 of the Constitution of the Islamic Republic, declaration of war and peace is among the duties of the leadership. Therefore, the opinions of others are immaterial.

His Eminence Imam Khomeyni, may his shadow continue, said to the aforementioned commission that it is obligatory on us to obey the orders of God, that is, to fight the aggressor. Hence, we should chop off the aggressive hand Saddam has raised against the Islamic nation of Iran and the oppressed nation of Iraq, and then prosecute him.

It is clear to every perceptive individual that compromise with the aggressor is synonymous with approval of his aggression. How can there be a compromise with someone who has butchered thousands of innocent Muslims, men and women, old and young, from among the Muslims of Iran and Iraq? He has inflicted losses amounting to billions of dollars on both countries and has basely exiled more than 60,000 persons, on the charge of being Iranians, and usurped their property. It is said that more than 10,000 innocent Muslims are subjected to torture in Iraqi prisons and are on the verge of death. How can there be a peace treaty with the person who annulled the 1975 Algiers treaty?

Is it possible to make a pact with someone who does not follow Islamic injunctions and international law? Can the person who bombed the cities of Ilam and Lorestan when the aforementioned mission was proposing peace be trusted?

I beseech Almighty God to grant strength and resistance to our brothers on the warfronts and in the south of the country so that they can continue their battle until the downfall of Saddam and the defeat of the superpowers. Success to the army of Islam!

[Signed] Seyyed Abdolhoseyn Dastgheyb

MASHHAD SIT-IN PROTESTS UNIVERSITY INCIDENT

CF101245 Mashhad Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 9 Mar 81

[Text] According to PARS, a sit-in has been held by over 2,000 members of Islamic societies, bazaar merchants, clergymen and theology students of Mashhad in the house of the great ayatollah, His Eminence Seyyed 'Abdollah Shirazi, to protest the recent events at Tehran University and to express support for the militant clergymen. Ayatollah Shirazi, the imam's representative and official in charge of the holy shrine of Imam Reza Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin 'Abbas-e Va'ez-e Tabasi, Khorrasan Governor General Dr Gafurifard, Mashhad Friday Imam Ayatollah Sheykh 'Abdolhasan Shirazi, Ayatollah Mirza Javad Agha-yeh Tehrani, Hojjat ol-Eslam Mirza 'Ali Falsafi and a group of militant clergymen as well as (?teachers) of the Mashhad theological school attended the sit-in last night.

During the gathering Hojjat ol-Eslam Tabasi, mentioning the aims of the militant clergy's constant struggle against the decadent former regime, said: Just as we repeatedly exposed the former regime by our cries, even when under torture by its lackeys, we now come among you to expose those responsible for these criminal acts even if now, as before, we or the nation may not control the radio and television. It does not matter to us if the individual responsible for such decadence is a representative of the people or not, whether he is attached to a group or organization or not, whether he is the prime minister or the president. We expect the country's judicial system to expose the instigators of the university incident and, irrespective of their position, reveal their identities to the people and hand down the maximum penalty.

(?At the end) of his speech the imam's representative asked those involved in the sit-in to end it in view of the special conditions of the country and thereby aid the Islamic government in its service to the people. He asked them not to condemn anyone with respect to the inauspicious events at Tehran University until the judgment of the judiciary system is handed down.

According to PARS, the people staging the sit-in issued an eight-point resolution the end of these ceremonies in the presence of the ulema and also announced their continuous support for the imam of the nation and the pure and militant clergy. They ended their sit-in pending announcement of the judicial judgment.

The resolution says in part: Contrary to the dastardly plots of the great Satan, the United States, concerning diversion of public opinion from the war imposed by the infidel Saddam against the Islamic revolution of Iran toward internal fronts, thus creating an atmosphere of agitation, the undersigned consider the most important and basic question to be the present war. We announce our complete support for the selfless fighters in the front of right against wrong.

Another part of the resolution reads: Following repeated decrees from the imam of the nation, we seriously request the Supreme Judicial Council and the prosecutor general to investigate the incident and prosecute the instigators.

Other parts of the resolution contain expressions of support for the people who staged a sit-in at Tehran University, the aware clergy and the government of brother Raja'i. They also ask for reinstatement of Col Seyyed Shirazi to his former position.

REVOLUTION GUARDS URGE OFFICER'S REINSTATEMENT

GF101825 Mashhad Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 10 Mar 81

[Text] According to the public relations department of the Darreh Gaz revolution guards, a cable has been sent to Imam Khomeyni's office concerning the dismissal of the commander in charge of purging operations in the west of the country, Col Seyyed Shirazi. The telegram says in part: Colonel Sirazi cleansed the Kordestan region of the presence of unpopular groups and lackeys of Eastern and Western imperialism with his dedication, hard work and unparalleled self-sacrifice. He formed the joint headquarters of army and (?revolution) guards for the operation and was the main force behind the unification of the army and the guards corps.

The cable also says: In view of the sensitive situation in the country, especially in the Kordestan region, and the dedicated service of (?Col Seyyed Shirazi)--which is obvious to all--his dismissal is considered treachery to the Islamic revolution and the militant and heroic nation. The undersigned request a quick review of the case and his return to his former post. We also warn the authorities of [words indistinct].

RAJA'I AIDE MEETS WITH YUGOSLAV AMBASSADOR

LD092200 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 9 Mar 81

[Excerpts] According to PARS, the Yugoslav ambassador in Tehran met with the prime minister's deputy and political adviser, Mr Mohammad Hashemi-Rafsanjani.

During the meeting, which lasted more than 30 minutes, the Yugoslav envoy expressed the hope for an expansion of relations between the two countries. The envoy also expressed the hope that Iran would soon appoint an ambassador to Belgrade.

Replying to the Yugoslav envoy, the deputy prime minister expressed his satisfaction with the existing trend in mutual relations, and added Iran needs cooperation to reconstruct the damage committed by Saddam. Because of Yugoslavia's comparatively impartial stand an its views on international affairs, Yugoslavia is among the countries whose cooperation will be welcomed by Iran.

Also present at the meeting was Dr [name indistinct], deputy prime minister in charge of planning, who has just returned from a trip to Yugoslavia.

MONTAZERI MEETS FOREIGN POLICY ADVISER IN LIBYA

LD102040 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 10 Mar 81

[Text] PARS reports that this morning Dr 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam, the Libyan chief of state's adviser on foreign affairs, together with a delegation from the Arab Steadfastness and Confrontation Front met with the esteemed Faqih Ayatollah Montazeri. At this meeting, at which Libya declared its support for the Islamic revolution and Iran's stance as regards the war imposed on Iran by the mercenary regime of Iraq and the conspiracies hatched by the reactionary countries in the region, the plots and plans of imperialism and Zionism against Islam and the Islamic liberation movements in the world were discussed.

Ayatollah Montazeri, referring to the situation on the battlefronts, said: Iraq's regime receives financial and spiritual support from all the mercenary countries in the region while our nation relies on God, the power of belief and complete solidarity between the fighting forces and the nation and it will end the war in its favor. Then Ayatollah Montazeri, sending his greetings to the members of the Arab Steadfastness and Confrontation Front, expressed his hopes that the unity between the two Muslim countries of Libya and Chad will result in an end to colonialist domination by the superpowers and in the expansion of Islam in Africa.

RAFSANJANI RECEIVES ARAB CONFRONTATION DELEGATION

LD091750 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 9 Mar 81

[Text] According to a Central News Bureau report, Brother Sa'd Mujbir, secretary general of the Libyan People's Bureau in Tehran, accompanied by members of the visiting Arab Steadfastness and Confrontation Front, met and conferred this afternoon with Majlis Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin 'Ali Akbar Hadhemi-Rafsanjani.

During the meeting the members of the Arab confrontation front handed Mr Rafsanjani a message from the Libyan leader supporting the Iranian stand against the Iraqi aggressor regime. The front also officially declared its support for Iran against Iraq and expressed its willingness to cooperate with Iran's Islamic revolution.

In reply, Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani expressed his gratitude for the front's support. He said that the people of Iran feel they have the power to repel the Iraqi aggression, and that your stand behind our cause is an indication of the unsoundness of Saddam's claim to brand the current war as an Arab-Persian and Sunni-Shi'ite war. I assure you that not only will we repel the aggression but we will also continue to resist until the Iraqi nation achieves its rights and justice.

Concluding his remarks, the Majlis speaker expressed the hope that with the triumph and establishment of an Islamic government in Iraq, the true eastern front against Israel, along with other governments of resistance movements and Iran, will be realized in the near future.

PALESTINE EMBASSY ANNOUNCES DEATH OF IRANIAN DIPLOMAT

GF091629 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1430 GMT 9 Mar 81

[Text] The Embassy of Palestine issued a statement today announcing the martyrdom of hero Mohammad Salih Hoseyni, who was assassinated by agents of the Iraqi regime in Beirut last Thursday. The following is the text of the statement:

In the name of God, the merciful and compassionate. Think not of those who are slain in God's way as dead, nay, they live, finding their sustenance in the presence of their Lord. [Koranic verse]

The Embassy of Palestine in the Islamic Republic of Iran announces to the broad masses of the fraternal Iranian people the martyrdom of hero struggler brother Mohammad Salih Hoseyni, a martyr of both Iran and Palestine who was assassinated by bullets of treason in Beirut last Thursday. Both the Iranian Islamic and Palestinian revolutions, which have paved their way with the blood of martyrs, promise the heroic martyr and all other hero martyrs that they will march side by side in order to liberate Palestine and its capital, Jerusalem. The revolution will continue until victory is achieved.

[Signed] The Embassy of Palestine in Tehran

IRAQI, JORDANIAN 'TERRORISTS' SENT TO BEIRUT

GF070741 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 7 Mar 81

[Text] PARS, citing reliable sources in Beirut, reports that an Iraqi airliner arrived in the Lebanese capital last Monday carrying a group of murderous terrorists. The group includes Iraqi and Jordanian special forces. Half of these forces were stationed at the Iraqi Embassy and the other half at the Jordanian Embassy. It has been reported that the first activity by the terrorists was the assassination of martyred Mohammad Salih Hoseyni.

TUDEH REPORTEDLY KEPT FROM CPSU CONGRESS

JN070746 Baghdad Voice of Arab Syria in Arabic 1900 GMT 5 Mar 81

[From "Tour of Arab and World Press" program]

[Text] Moscow--A spokesman for the Kremlin has said that the Iranian Government has prevented a delegation of the leftist Tudeh Party from attending the 26th CPSU Congress. Speaking at a press conference yesterday, the spokesman, Vadim Zagladin, said this was the reason why the Tudeh Party was not represented at the congress.

TUDEH SENDS GREETINGS MESSAGE TO CPSU CONGRESS

For the PRAVDA report on the message sent by Iran's Tudeh Party, signed by Nureddin Kianuri, to the 26th CPSU Congress, see page 6 of the 26th CPSU Congress section of the 10 March Soviet Union DAILY REPORT.

SOVIET ACTIONS IN AFGHANISTAN CRITICIZED

GF100504 Tehran International Service in Urdu 1315 GMT 9 Mar 81

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] Afghanistan has experienced many changes in its struggle for freedom since the 19th century. Some of our Muslim brothers who were languishing in Afghan jails have been released. They have come to Iran and have narrated their true experiences.

The aggressive Soviet forces--with the assistance of the Afghan secret police--have destroyed the lives of Afghan citizens, and their residential districts are in ruins. When the Soviet and Afghan forces enter a village they take all valuables such as jewelry, watches, tape recorders and cash. They enter the carefully tended orchards, steal the fruit and raze the gardens with their tanks. Persons who have been arrested by the Soviet aggressors are tortured in the prisons by Soviet police, the so-called guardians of freedom.

The Afghan people are looking to the Muslim countries of the world and are expecting them to assist them in this catastrophic situation. It can be in the form of manpower to provide military training or in the form of foodstuff and medical aid. We hope the Muslim countries of the world will recognize the misfortune of this Muslim nation and remedy (?its ills). One day, an Islamic republic will be created in this oppressed Muslim country.

TEHRAN REPORTS DISTUBANCES, EXECUTIONS IN IRAQ

LD081810 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 8 Mar 81

[Text] PARS has been informed by reliable Iraqi sources that serious clashes have taken place in As-Sulaymaniyah, Kirkuk and Al-Mawsil between the Muslim people and Iraqi Kurds on the one hand and the mercenaries of the infidel regime of Saddam on the other. The sources say that heavy casualties have been inflicted on the forces of Saddam.

According to those sources, the aforementioned Iraqi towns are completely closed and (?assassinations) are taking place in them every day. The same sources add that the special courts of mercenary Saddam have executed four high-ranking officers of the Iraqi Armed Forces but no accurate reports have yet been received concerning their offenses.

Among those executed was Yasir Mohammad, an air force major who was regarded as one of Iraq's best pilots. According to these sources, the families of the persons who have been executed have been taken to a remote place in Iraq.

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF ISSUES COMMUNIQUE 430

LD101836 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 10 Mar 81

[Communique 430 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] According to the latest dispatches which we have received the battle continues between the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the aggressive Iraqi forces of the country's southern and western fronts.

Exchanges of artillery and mortar fire continue on the Karkheh Kue, west Andimeshk, Shush, Abadan, Darkhovin, Salmaniyeh, Mahshahr, Susangerd, Khuninshahr Dezful, Kan-e Sakht and Shur-e Shirin fronts and on the Meymak Heights. On the remainder of the fronts irregular firing continues with the faithful troops manning Islam's trenches controlling most of the fronts with firepower superiority.

The following are some of the results of the battles waged by our intrepid combatants against Saddam's mercenary forces on 9 and 10 March and the situation on all the fronts in general:

1. From 0930 this morning an exchange of fire took place between our forces and those of the enemy on the Abadan, Darkhovin, Salmaniyeh and Mahshahr fronts, and as a result of artillery fire by the ground forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran on enemy positions four enemy ammunition dumps, two tank emplacements, two loaders, one vehicle, one machine-gun emplacement, one rocket-launching emplacement and a number of concrete bunkers were destroyed and a number of Iraqi military personnel were killed.

2. At 1115 today two Iraqi aircraft raided the Marivan barracks; two of our military brothers were martyred and seven were wounded. In the meantime, one helicopter of the Airborne Division of the Islamic Republic of Iran crashed at 1000 today on the Sanandaj-Marivan highway: its pilot, copilot and two other crewmen were martyred and another was wounded. The cause of this crash is under investigation.

3. Yesterday, thanks to fire opened by the Islamic Republic of Iran's naval units on the positions of the Iraqi aggressors, several enemy trenches in the occupied sector of Khuninshahr were destroyed and appreciable losses were inflicted on Saddam's army.

4. Yesterday, in the Dezful region, the defenders of the Islamic revolution clashed with the enemy on one of the fronts and as a result of the stiff resistance put up by our units the enemy units, suffering losses, were forced to retreat. On another front in this region one enemy mechanized battalion which intended to advance was halted and prevented from advancing further thanks to our artillery fire and air support.

5. Yesterday, in the Ilam region, one of the units of the Islamic Republic of Iran's Armed Forces came under fire from advancing enemy tanks and armoed personnel carriers but, thanks to stubborn counteraction by our group of self-sacrificing heroes, the enemy forces suffered heavy losses and casualties and were forced to retreat.

6. Yesterday, enemy artillery and mortar fire on Abadan's residential districts destroyed five houses and four shops.

Several enemy aircraft flying at a great height appeared over Abadan but were driven away thanks to the fire of our alert antiaircraft defense units.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

GUARDS CORPS CITES 7 MAR BATTLE SUCCESSES

LD082050 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 8 Mar 81

[Summary] According to PARS, the public relations office of the central headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps has detailed the activities of the fighters of Islam on Saturday, 7 March, on various battlefronts of the Iraqi-imposed war, in the following statement:

A. On the southern front:

1. The mortar fire of the revolution guards positioned on the Allaho Akbar heights on the Ahvaz front set ablaze one enemy munition depot, which continued burning for hours afterwards.

2. Several concrete emplacements and a pumping house were destroyed on the other side of the Arvand Rud [Shatt al-'Arab]. During these operations, the enemy personnel guarding the trenches and one Iraqi observer were killed on the other side of the Arvand Rud.

B. On the western front:

1. During a series of guerrilla operations, the brother guards penetrated inside Iraqi territory near the Changuleh region of Ilam and destroyed a large number of foxholes and trenches of the blasphemous enemy. During this operation one mortar depot was also destroyed, and around 20 personnel of the forces of blasphemy were killed.

2. The artillery fire of our ground forces in the region of Marivan killed several Iraqi soldiers in the vicinity of Panjwin [in Iraq] and damaged eight enemy cannons.

3. In the region of Marivan the Islamic combatants opened fire destroying two enemy posts and one munition depot in the (Kharmal) region of Iraq. Two 120-mm mortar launchers of the enemy were also destroyed during these operations.

4. The artillery fire of combatants of Islam set fire to part of the (Zubin) garrison in Iraq and inflicted great loss and damage on the enemy.

On 7 and 8 March 15 misguided members of the illegal groups presented themselves to the Islamic revolution guards of Sanandaj and Marivan and handed over their arms.

5. The artillery fire of our army stationed in the Marivan region inflicted heavy losses and damages on Iraqi forces in the Maranah region [in Iraq].

6. The military town of Harguneh in Iraq was badly damaged by the artillery fire of the combatants of Islam and 80 percent of the enemy trenches around this town were destroyed.

[Signed] The central news headquarter of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps

GUARDS CORPS STATEMENT ON 7-9 MAR ACTIONS

LD101835 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 10 Mar 81

[Summary] PARS reports that the public relations office of the central headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps gave a summary of their activities against Saddam's forces as follows:

1. Destruction of three tanks, one personnel carrier and one bulldozer with its servicemen on 7, 8 and 9 March in the Karkheh Kur region. As a result of Iraqi fire two of our brother guards were martyred on 8 March.

2. Our forces killed 25 of the agent Saddam's soldiers by mortar fire on the Shush front on 9 March.

3. On the Abadan fronts two enemy ammunition depots were destroyed by mortar fire of our brother guards and several of Saddam's infidels were either killed or wounded. In the same region and on the other side of the Karun River one enemy vehicle and one trench were destroyed and four of Saddam's mercenaries were killed.

4. In the occupied part of Khuninshahr our brother guards and mobilization forces killed five of the blasphemous Saddam's observers.

5. An enemy tank with its servicemen and ammunition was destroyed at station No 7 in Abadan on 8 March.

On 9 March the artillery fire of the army in the region of Marivan inflicted heavy losses and damages on the (Zubin) and Khurmal garrisons of Iraq. Heavy losses and damages were inflicted on an enemy armored column which was heading for Khurmal and its movement was halted.

In the last 3 days three Iraqi brothers presented themselves to the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps of Bayangan and sought asylum. An Iraqi military man also sought asylum with Islamic forces after deserting the agent Saddam's forces.

TEHRAN CLAIMS AL-FAW OIL INSTALLATIONS ABLAZE

LD102220 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 10 Mar 81

[Summary] In a dispatch from Abadan, PARS has reported that thanks to fire by the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran oil installations in the Al-Faw refinery and jetties on the opposite bank of the Arvand Rud in Iraqi territory have been set ablaze.

According to this dispatch, in the past 24 hours an exchange of artillery fire has continued between the defenders of the Islamic revolution and the forces of Saddam's army along the Abadan and Khuninshahr fronts, and as a result of accurate and continuous fire by the combatants of Islam today, one enemy tank, two trenches, one observation trench, three machinegun emplacements, one mortar emplacement, together with ammunition, and six foxholes of the aggressive mercenaries were destroyed and a number of the servicemen of Saddam's mercenary army were killed.

On the Abadan-Mahshahr highway, last night and today, 2 enemy mortars, 4 foxholes and trenches and 1 observation post were destroyed and 14 of Saddam's aggressor troops were killed.

IRAQI ROCKETS HIT AHVAZ 10-11 MAR; CASUALTIES LISTED

GF111000 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 11 Mar 81

[Text] Saddam's aggressor forces have perpetrated another crime, which is to be added to their record of shameful crimes. Following their treacherous rocket attack on Ahvaz the night before yesterday, they again shelled this steadfast and heroic city last night with the rockets of their blind hatred.

The correspondent of the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Ahvaz reports that two rockets--one 9 meters long and the other with a less destructive capability--hit two areas of the city. The savage rocket bombardment resulted in the destruction of 40 to 50 houses. In the first moments following the crime the brave citizens of Ahvaz hastened to the places where the rockets were falling chanting "God is great, God is great," to help the wounded and dig out the martyrs' bodies. The correspondent reports that so far there are 10 martyrs and 24 wounded.

LAND REFORM SEMINAR HELD IN MAHSHAHR

GF071855 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 7 Mar 81

[Text] A 2-day seminar was held in Mahshahr last Wednesday by the Mahshahr Land Reform Council, in the presence of the Mahshahr governor and Friday imam and members of the district councils, to discuss the coordination of the district councils, land distribution and agricultural problems. During the seminar, the Mahshahr governor and Friday imam delivered speeches on the importance of the councils and the plots that are often carried out by feudal landowners against them. Members of the council delivered speeches asking for the implementation of Article J [of the land reform law]. At the end of the seminar an eight-point resolution was read by one of the brother members of the council, which once again stressed the council's full support for the imam of the nation. The resolution also asked the central headquarters to establish councils in other districts of the province and asked the revolution guards to support the councils and to implement Article J.

AHVAZ GOVERNORATE ISSUES COMMUNIQUE ON HOARDING

GF091600 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 9 Mar 81

[Communique issued by Ahvaz governor's office on 9 March]

[Text] It is hereby announced that during this crucial period when the country is at war with the enemies of the Islamic revolution, for the last time, those professional hoarders and those charging high prices are warned that, besides controlling and attending to the just distribution of goods, the security forces are requested to cooperate with the governorate in combatting hoarding and overcharging. Hoarders must be identified so that they can be dealt with in accordance with wartime regulations.

KAZERUN ISLAMIC REVOLUTION COURT SUMMONS CLERIC

GF071828 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1530 GMT 7 Mar 81

[Text] The prosecutor of the Islamic revolution court of Kazerun has asked Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali Asghar-Rezvani to report to the court. His summons notice will also appear in a widely-circulated newspaper for 3 months.

TEHRAN REPORTS ON 9-10 FIGHTING IN KORDESTAN

'Strategic Heights' Recaptured

LD092128 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 9 Mar 81

[Excerpt] The operations commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps in the west has reported that today the defenders of the Islamic revolution managed to recapture the strategic heights of (Talle-e Harat) in the Marivan region. According to a PARS report, the operations commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps in the west, who was present at the scene, added that in these operations one armored personnel carrier of the Saddam army was completely annihilated and all its personnel were killed. This vehicle was on its way from Panjwin to Kaharmal in order to back-up the enemy forces.

Iraqi Posts Shelled

LD101750 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 10 Mar 81

[Summary] Citing the commander of the operations staff of the 28th Division in Marivan, the Central News Bureau reports that our forces used artillery fire to pound Iraqi garrisons which suffered huge casualties; 30 of Saddam's mercenaries were killed. An Iraqi post 1 km from Khurmal on Iraqi territory and two Iraqi military vehicles were hit and destroyed by artillery fire from our forces in Marivan. During this attack a number of servicemen manning the Iraqi post were either killed or wounded.

The (Darband Rud), (Darreh Mar) and another post of the Iraqi aggressors on the Ahmadabad hills in Iraqi territory and also part of the (Diyarah) barracks together with its installations were destroyed, and the fires caused by explosions could be seen for hours later.

Kurdish Groups Fight

LD102027 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 10 Mar 81

[Text] PARS, citing informed officials at the joint operations headquarters of the armed forces and the guards corps in Kordestan, reports that in severe confrontations between Komeleh and Kurdish Democratic Party members in [name indistinct] village near Sardasht on 7 and 8 March two people were killed and several were injured on both sides. Also in another confrontation between members of Komoleh and the Democratic Party in a village around Kamyaran, a Komeleh member was killed and several people were injured on both sides. The two groups took several hostages from the opposing side. These confrontations follow recent severe clashes between armed members of Peykar, the Democratic Party and Komeleh.

Gendarmerie Posts Attacked

LD101758 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 10 Mar 81

[Excerpt] PARS reports that attacks launched by illegally armed assailants on two Gendarmerie bases in Urumiyeh and Naqadeh were foiled by the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and a dump truck was captured from these assailants. An informed official at the political bureau of the governorate general of West Azarbayjan today confirmed this news and told a PARS correspondent that Gendarmerie personnel stationed at (Kuraneh) base near Urumiyeh confronted illegally armed assailants at 2300 on 8 March in [name indistinct] village and forced the assailants to flee. The forces defending the Islamic revolution suffered no loss.

KEYHAN on Clashes

NC101410 Paris AFP in English 1400 GMT 10 Mar 81

[Text] Tehran, 10 Mar (AFP)--Four Iranian guardians of the revolution were killed and 15 others wounded in clashes with "counter-revolutionaries" near Saqqez in Kordestan Province, the daily paper KEYHAN said today. The paper did not mention losses among the counter-revolutionaries or state when the clashes occurred.

CIVILIANS REPORTEDLY BARRED FROM LEAVING WAR ZONES

GF0816112 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1330 GMT 8 Mar 81

[Text] The guards of Khomeyni's regime continue to ban the departure of civilians, and especially women and children, from the war zone cities and areas. This is taking place at a time when groups of innocent people are dying by enemy shelling daily. In the past 2 days a group of citizens, including women and children, have been killed by enemy bombings in the cities of Ilam, Dezful and Kermanshah. The rulers of the regime, however, are preventing their departure from the war zones by force, using the guards' J-3 rifles--instead of transporting women and children to safe areas. It is unknown why the mullahs want the civilians killed in this manner.

RADIO IRAN CLAIMS FIGHTING 'HEAVY' IN TABRIZ

GF081601 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1330 GMT 8 Mar 81

[Text] According to dispatches from Tabriz, heavy fighting took place in the city between the guards and citizens in the past 48 hours. We have as yet no further report on the events.

RADIO IRAN: QODDUSI'S SON KILLED, MULLAHS THREATENED

NC101550 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1330 GMT 10 Mar 81

[Text] Contrary to statements issued by officials of the Islamic Republic, the son of Ayatollah Qoddusi, the prosecutor general of Khomeyni's Islamic revolution, was not killed in a car accident but was murdered.

Reports received in connection with the mysterious death of revolution Prosecutor General Qoddusi's son state that he was murdered by a number of persons opposed to the clergy. The French magazine (?VSD) was informed that the unidentified people, who murdered him, cut off his head and sent it in a parcel to his father. According to informed sources, the message attached to the parcel was a warning to Qoddusi saying that his turn would come soon.

Following the murder of 'Ali Qoddusi's son and the threatening messages from unidentified persons to a number of officials of the Islamic Republic, the regime's well-known clergy have increased the number of their bodyguards since last week.

Reports from Tehran state that Sadeq Khalkhali, Mohammad Beheshti, 'Ali Qoddusi, Musavi Ardabili, Hashemi-Rafsanjani and 'Ali Khamene'i have been terrified by telephone calls and written warnings by a group of unidentified persons and have doubled their bodyguards.

In circles close to Sadeq Khalkhali it is being said that he considers the president's clique as being responsible for recent attempts against the clergy, whereas it is interesting to note that people close to Bani-Sadr state in turn that Khalkhali and Beheshti have employed a number of people to kill the president.

NVOI COMMENTS ON INTERNATIONAL, DOMESTIC ISSUES

6 Mar Commentary

TA061919 [Editorial Report] The clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT on 6 March carried a commentary entitled "If Dictatorship Means Retrieving the Right of the Oppressed From the Oppressor, it is Islamic." It reported that, addressing clergy heading for and returning from the front, as well as some soldiers and officials of the guards corps, the great Khomeyni made important remarks. He said that you should be aware that there is a movement to portray the clergy in another manner to the people; they want to separate the people from the clergy and to achieve their aims through a regime that is outwardly 100 percent Islamic but inwardly seditious and contrary to the interests of the country.

Without a doubt what the imam had in mind were those groups and individuals who, by pretending to be Muslims, especially in the garb of the liberals and their mouthpieces, are plotting day and night against the revolutionary clergy and the imam's line. The aim of these individuals and groups is the revival of the former plundering apparatus and the renewal of the domination of imperialism, led by U.S. imperialism. If you compare the contents of the newspapers that are the mouthpieces of the liberals with the items broadcast from the Voice of America and the BBC and the mouthpieces of Bakhtiar and Oveysi, you will see that in most cases the assessments, judgments, charges and claims are all similar. It is the liberals who, under the guise of Islam, strike at the imam's line and say that they made a mistake to participate in the revolution. The thread about which the imam worried is in the hands of these same liberal gentlemen. It is they who claim to be Muslims, and at the same time talk about dictatorship by the mullahs. In response to this charge, the imam rightly said: If dictatorship means retrieving the right of the oppressed from the oppressor, and if dictatorship means the elimination of the Nassiris in courts, this is something which Islam did and which was carried out under the orders of Islam.

7 Mar Commentaries

TA072039 [Editorial Report] The clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT on 7 March carried two commentaries:

The first, entitled "The True Purge in The Military and Administrative Apparatus: The Verdict of the Revolution," said that paying attention to purges in the military and administrative organizations is essential. Unfortunately, purges in offices and ministries dependent on the government have still not been carried out according to the demands of the imam and the true revolutionary forces and in some cases these purges even resulted in the expulsion of progressive and committed elements. Today it is no longer a secret that the provisional government of Mr Bazargan had created many obstacles for the revolution. We can not keep silent in connection with the harm inflicted on the purges as a result of the superficiality and narrowmindedness of a certain wing. This wing in reality wanted (?superficial) tranformations. Even though they repeated slogans for strengthening the revolutionary institutions, they did not believe in anything but the establishment of their sovereignty and the acquisition of power. In the bill calling for purges of personnel in ministries and government organizations--even though it had as its object the purging of counterrevolutionaries and persons dependent on the former regime--some unclear articles have been included which can result in the repetition of harmful activities.

We have often said and now repeat that cleansing and purges without a revolutionary and decisive attitude for transformations in the administrative system, apparatus and ministries was and continues to be impossible.

A fundamental transformation in the administrative system should be carried out in a way divorced from any kind of monopolism, egocentrism and narrowmindedness with the aid of elements committed to the revolution. The cleansing and purging of offices is the verdict of the glorious Iranian revolution.

The second commentary, entitled "How To Encounter The Acute National Problem," stated that one of the acute and complicated problems in our society is the nationalites problem and the recognition of the national rights of minorities living in our country. A delay (?in finding a solution) to the problem is to the detriment of the revolution and to the advantage of its foes: imperialists and internal reactionaries. The enemies are lying in wait for inflicting blows to the revolution and its gains, especially in Sistan va Baluchistan. It is not without cause that U.S. imperialism, hand in hand with Maoist China and their allies such as the Qabuses and Ziaul Haqs, and the counterrevolutionary Afghan refugees, exert efforts for weakening the Islamic Republic of Iran and (?cutting off) this part of our homeland. U.S. imperialism's plan is that if it cannot regain its lost interests in our liberated country, at least it can divide some parts of our land, thus realizing some of their satanic plans against Iran.

We must be evermore vigilant in the face of such Satanic plans. It is up to the responsible officials of our country and to the people of Baluchistan to have a revolutionary attitude toward state problems. This is especially true since the reactionaries raised the Shi'a-Sunni issue in Baluchistan, instigating the Sunnis by saying that the clergy of the imam's path does not intend to fulfill the demands of Baluchis who are Sunnis.

The people of our nation, be it in Baluchistan, Kordestan, Azarbayjan or Qonbad-e Qabus witnessed how the counterrevolutionaries and remnants of the former regime continue to take advantage of the delay of officials in recognizing the indisputable rights of minorities in our country. In Baluchistan, the capitalists, smugglers and Afghan mercenaries have formed a counterrevolutionary front against the Islamic Republic of Iran. It is even said that many commanders in the army and gendarmerie support these counterrevolutionaries. We should all keep in mind the fact that the solution to the nationalities problem and the recognition of their rights (?depend) on the struggle against U.S. imperialism and counterrevolution.

8 Mar Commentary

TA081859 [Editorial Report] The clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT on 8 March carried a commentary entitled: "March 8: The Day of Women's Solidarity in the World." It said that women in progressive countries all over the world celebrate 8 March as a day of solidarity. Following the overthrow of the corrupt regime and victory of the revolution, the women of our liberated country have the opportunity to celebrate this international special celebration freely. As we know, during the former satanic regime, the women of our country did not enjoy equality with men. Despite all the obstacles raised by the former regime for keeping women apart from their country's social and political life, the women of our country fought alongside the men to gain their rights and relieve the country from the bondage of slavery. Especially during the revolution, the women of our country, with their vast participation in the struggle, have shown how they can play an important role in advancing the goals of the nation. The Iranian women participated in street demonstrations confronting the bullets and tanks of the corrupt regime--an event that astonished the world.

The women of our country want to participate in the economic, social and political affairs of their country; they want education to be equal for boys and girls; they want to be given equal opportunities for jobs and wages. With their active participation in the popular and anti-imperialist struggle of our nation, women can fulfil their wishes.

We sincerely congratulate all Iranian women on the occasion of this great day and wish them success and happiness in the construction of an independent and free Iran.

9 Mar Commentary

TA091917 [Editorial Report] The clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT on 9 March carried a commentary, entitled "Let Us Prevent Our Revolutionary Homeland From Being Transformed Into a Field of Activity By the Foes of the Revolution," which said the Interior Ministry has prohibited any demonstrations and marches for an undetermined period. According to the interior minister, this measure was to prevent the activities of deviant groups intending to take advantage of the incidents of last Thursday at Tehran University. We cannot overlook the fact that the situation created in our country is the result of the unhealthy course taken by some of the responsible people of the Islamic Republic who, during the postrevolutionary period, have disregarded the activities of the club wielders against the true forces of the revolution and thus paved the way for the activities of counterrevolutionaries. Club wielding is one of the heritages of the cursed satanic regime that had been transformed into an institution for administering the country during the last days of that regime. It would have been fair if the authorities of the Islamic Republic of Iran had taken steps to eradicate club wielding, which they did not; even worse, they disregarded its activities.

Today the situation is such that no one is safe from the club wielders. It is regretful that some in the upper echelons, under the excuse of defending freedom and democracy, while giving liberty of action to counterrevolutionary elements, portray as club wielders the true supporters of the revolution, in order to divert public opinion. Without doubt, the vigilant people of our country cannot be diverted from discovering the truth and the truth will finally be made manifest, and those who caused blood to be spilled in the university will answer to the nation. The bloody incident at Tehran University has once again proved that counterrevolution is taking advantage of the situation and is exerting efforts to (?prove) its overseas masters' claims that there is no government in Iran.

It is erroneous to imagine that in the university incident or in similar incidents, this or that group are in confrontation; the problem is much more deep and broad. What is happening today in our country is a manifestation of the fact that counterrevolution has transformed club wielding into the alleged method of solving social problems, into a method of political and ideological struggle. This situation cannot but worry the people of our country. The people of our homeland condemn club wielding and consider its eradication as their duty and that of the government since club wielding is a counter revolutionary method. It is up to our people to prevent the social scene of revolutionary Iran to be transformed into the battlefield of the overt and covert foes of the Iranian revolution.

10 Mar Commentaries

TA101959 [Editorial Report] The clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT on 10 March carried two commentaries.

The first, entitled "An End Must Be Put To the Plot and Obstructionism of the Liberals," said: at the Islamic Consultative Assembly's open session when votes were being taken on the bill for appointing supervisors to ministries which have no ministers, the Majlis lost its quorum because of the intentional departure of 13 deputies, and a resolution of this important problem has been delayed once more. This obstructionist act by the liberal deputies in the Majlis cannot be justified in any way, for the affairs of the country cannot be sacrificed for the overt and covert political games of this or that individual or authority. In connection with the obstructionist act of these deputies, the speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly rightly said: This issue demonstrated that this minority always claims that their rights are being violated, but this group violates the rights of the entire nation and of the majority in the Majlis.

The interests of the revolution and of the Iranian nation dictate that the Cabinet be completed as soon as possible and that the government perform its normal duties. However, as we are aware, until now three ministers of the Cabinet, the ministers of foreign affairs, commerce, and economy and finance, have not been appointed, and hindrance and obstructionism are still being continued in this respect. Obstruction in the Majlis is another example of this attempt.

All are aware that up to now certain individuals have been repeatedly nominated for the aforementioned posts; however, Mr Bani-Sadr, our country's president, has rejected these candidates without clearly explaining the reason to the people. On the other hand while the president prevents the appointment of supervisors to the three aforementioned ministries, and even in the Majlis prevents any measure in this connection through his supporters, he himself does not say explicitly who his own candidates are. Does he believe that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs should still be in the hands of individuals like Dr Yazdi and Sadeq Qotbzadeh? Does the president want individuals like Reza Sadr to run the Ministry of Commerce so that the big merchants and hoarders will continue to plunder and loot?

The Iranian people demand that competent and able individuals committed and faithful to the revolution be appointed as ministers of foreign affairs, commerce, and economy and finance. The Iranian people can no longer tolerate that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs be handed to agents such as Qotbzadeh and Dr Yazdi. The same applies to the Ministry of Economy and Finance. The Cabinet must be completed as soon as possible, and any act carried out to prevent this measure is to the detriment of our revolution and country.

The second commentary, entitled "The People Demand the Establishment of Good Relations With Democratic Afghanistan," stated: The U.S. Government has decided, with the cooperation of Saudi Arabia, to officially put arms at the disposal of the Afghan counterrevolutionaries so that they will continue their subversive and criminal activities against the people and legitimate Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan through Pakistan. Thus, outside intervention in the affairs of independent Afghanistan is still continuing. The Pakistani paper THE MUSLIM has reported that U.S. officials in Washington announced to Seyyed Ahmad Gailani, one of the ringleaders of the Afghan counterrevolutionary bands, that the U.S. Government is prepared henceforth to officially render military assistance to the Afghan counterrevolutionary groups. This report is indicative of the fact that the reins of the so-called Islamic mojahedin and strugglers of Afghanistan are in the hands of the CIA and the Pentagon and that the so-called Islamic mojahedin are in fact the implementors of the satanic plans of world-devouring America against Afghanistan and the Islamic Republic of Iran.

In such circumstances, this just question is posed: Under these conditions should the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran be at the side of the liberated people of Afghanistan, or at the side of the enemies of the Afghan people, at the side of the so-called Islamic mojahedin? The wish of the Iranian people is that our country be at the side of the Afghan nation which supports its democratic government. Today all acknowledge the fact that the government of Democratic Afghanistan enjoys the support of the people of that country. This government has many times approached our country's officials and has proposed its readiness for negotiation and for the establishment of good and normal relations between the two neighboring, Muslim and liberated countries. However, unfortunately, we are observing that in practice not only has no step been taken by our country's officials in this connection, but for certain reasons the policy adopted with regard to Afghanistan is willingly or unwillingly in the direction favored by U.S. imperialism, and this situation cannot but arouse the concern of our homeland's people. It is also a cause of regret that the government clearly and in practice supports the fugitive Afghan counterrevolutionaries, whereas it is obvious that the vast majority of the groups of so-called Islamic mojahedin and strugglers are in one way or another connected with the espionage organizations of the United States, Beijing, Israel and Pakistan. They are the agents for implementing the counterrevolutionary plots of U.S. imperialism against the democratic regime and the legitimate Government of Afghanistan.

In our own country most of the fugitive Afghans are engaged in the trade of weapons and narcotics, banditry and even murder and other crimes, and are active in Baluchistan in the plots of the counterrevolutionaries and remnants of the former regime against the territorial integrity of our country. One of the satanic plans of U.S. imperialism is to make Iran and Afghanistan confront each other. This plot should be jointly thwarted by the establishment of good and friendly relations with Democratic Afghanistan.